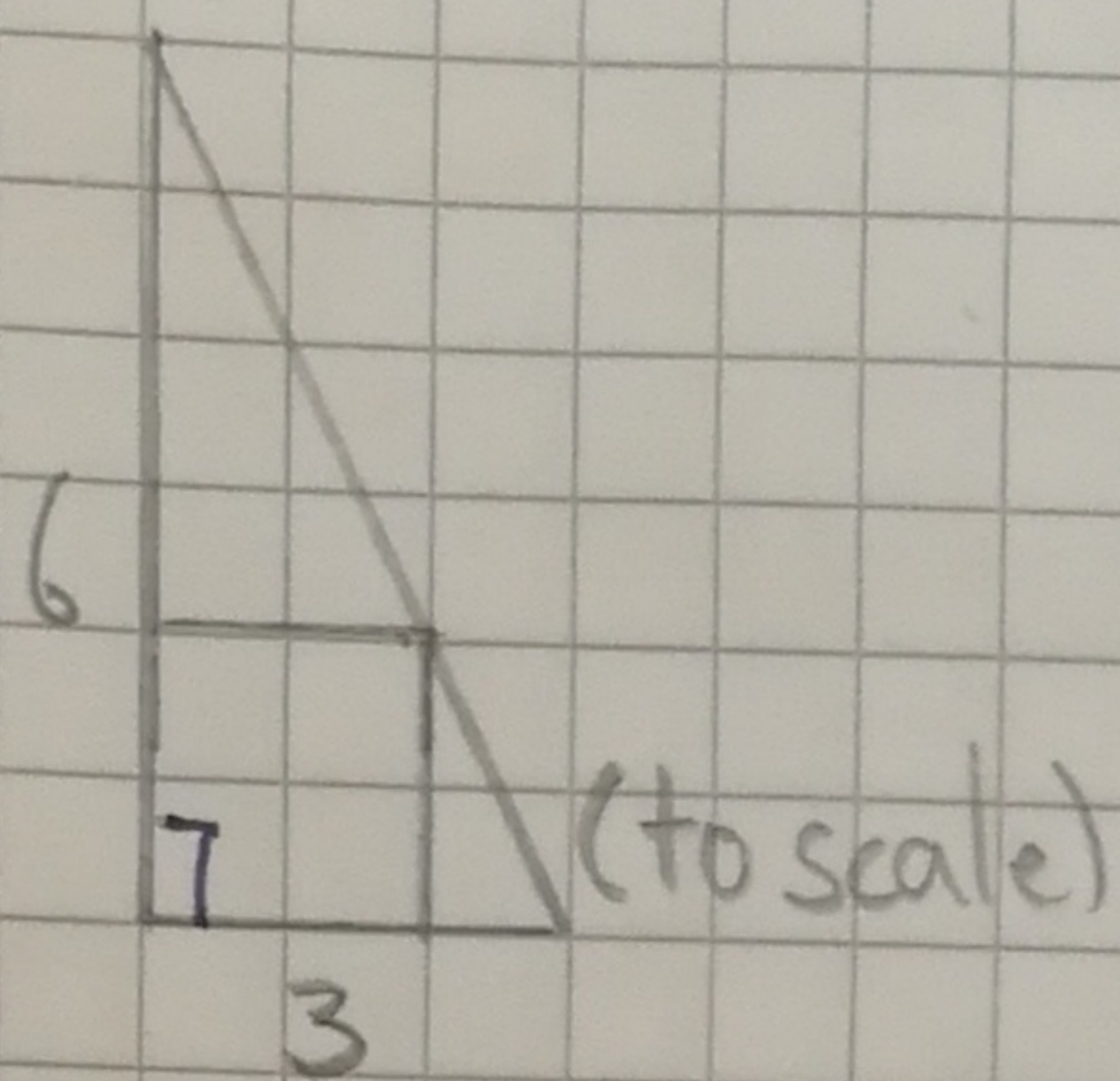
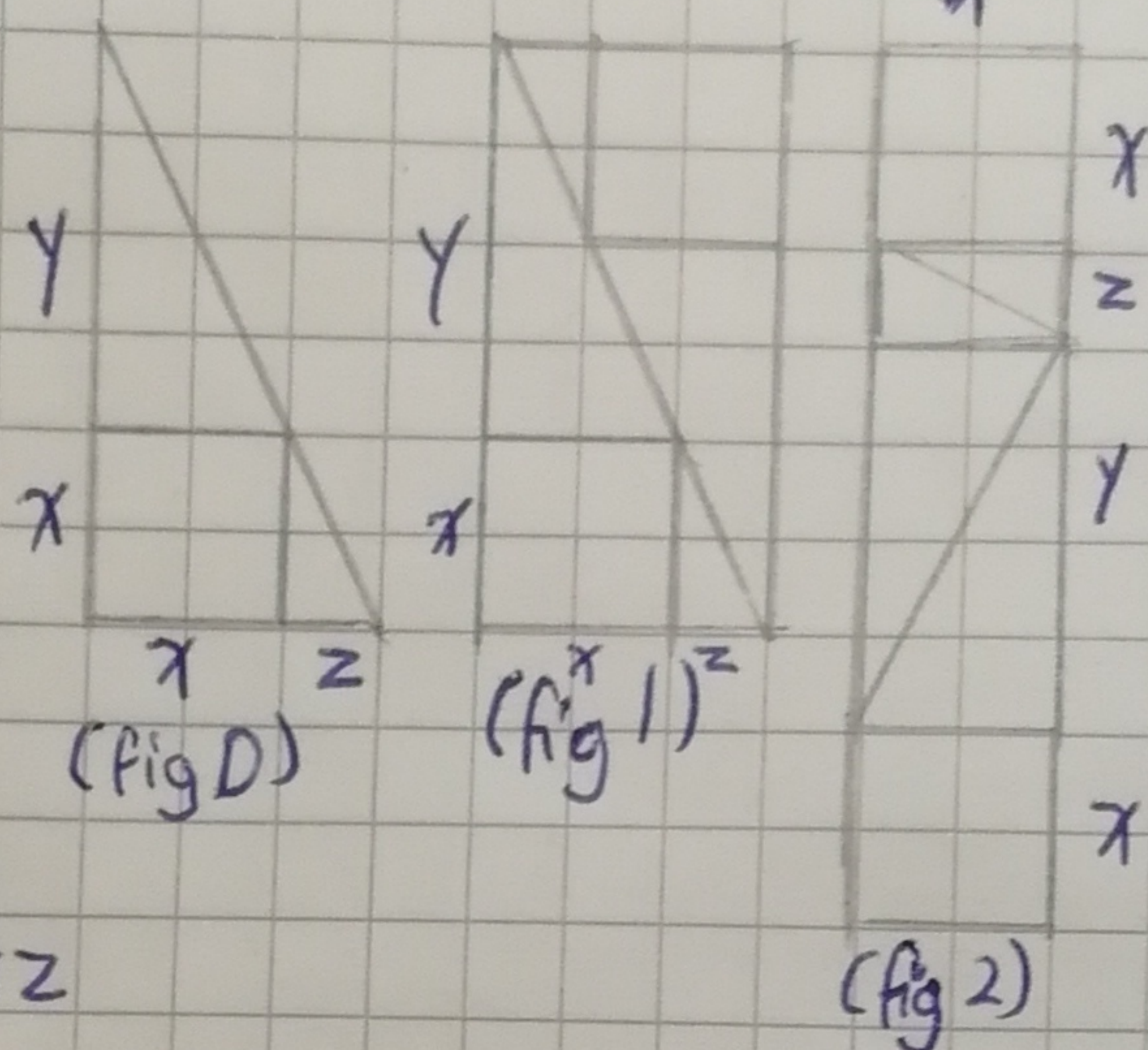


The Square Under the Hypotenuse (find the side length of the square)



Aside from visual proof, there is also algebraic proof



As both fig. 1 and fig. 2 use the same shapes, they have the same area. I will be referring to each equation as "A" followed by the figure number

$$A_1 = (x+y)(x+z)$$

$$A_2 = x(2x+y+z)$$

$$(x+y)(x+z) = x(2x+y+z)$$

[Equation continued right]

$$(x+y)(x+z) = x(2x+y+z)$$

$$x^2 + xy + xz + yz = 2x^2 + xy + xz$$

$$x^2 + yz = 2x^2$$

$$yz = x^2$$

$$y + x = 6$$

$$z + x = 3$$

$$y + x = 2z + 2x$$

$$y = x + 2z$$

$$0 = x + 2z - y$$

$$x^2 + xy + xz + yz = 6 \times 3 = 18$$

$$x^2 - yz = 0$$

$$x + 2z - y = 0$$

$$2x^2 + xy + xz = 18$$

$$2x = y$$

$$x + y = 6$$

$$2xy = 0$$

$$3x = 6$$

$$x = 2$$

$$x + y = 6$$

$$y = 4$$

$$x + z = 3$$

$$z = 1$$

$$2x^2 + xy + xz = 18$$

$$x(2x + y + z) = 18$$

$$2x + y + z = 18 \div x$$

$$2x + y + z = 18 \div x$$

$$x - y + 2z = 0$$

$$3x + 3z = 18 \div x$$

$$3x(x+z) = 18$$

$$3x(x+z) = (x+y)(x+z)$$

$$3x = x+y$$

$$2x = y$$

(see next column)

The side length of the square is 2 units

$$x : y : z = 2 : 4 : 1$$

If the side lengths of the triangle were a and b, the side length of the square would be $\frac{1}{3}a$, or conversely, $\frac{2}{3}b$